



SIMPLIFIED IEE AMENDMENT

ACTIVITY DATA

Activity Name:	North Sinai Initiative Assistance Agreement (263-0297)
Geographic Location(s) (Country/Region):	Egypt, Middle East
Amendment (Yes/No), if Yes indicate # (1, 2...):	Yes, Amendment Number 6
Implementation Start/End Dates (FY or M/D/Y):	FY 2010 - FY 2022
If Amended, specify New End Date:	N/A
Solicitation/Contract/Award Number(s):	AID-263-C-15-00003
Implementing Partner(s):	The Holding Company for Water and Wastewater
Bureau Tracking ID:	ME 20-61
Tracking ID of Related RCE/IEE:	ME 19-61, ME 17-46, ME 16-38, ME 15-32, ME 13-68 and ME10-99
Tracking ID of Other, Related Analyses:	

ORGANIZATIONAL/ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Implementing Operating Unit(s): (e.g. Mission or Bureau or Office)	Office of Economic Growth.
Other Affected Operating Unit(s):	USAID EGYPT
Lead BEO Bureau:	ME
Original Funding Amount:	\$55.6 Million
If Amended, specify funding amount:	N/A
If Amended, specify new funding total:	N/A
Prepared by:	Atef Abdel Sayed
Date Prepared:	07/13/2020

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE REVIEW DATA

Analysis Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial Environmental Examination Amendment <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Categorical Exclusion Amendment
Environmental Determination(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exclusion(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Deferred (per 22 CFR 216.3(a)(7)(iv))
IEE Expiration Date (if applicable):	September 2022
Additional Analyses/Reporting Required:	Scoping Statement and local EIA
Climate Risks Identified (#):	Low ___ # ___ Moderate ___ # ___ High ___ # ___
Climate Risks Addressed (#):	Low ___ # ___ Moderate ___ # ___ High ___ # ___

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE AMENDMENT

The purpose of this amendment is to update the compliance record North Sinai Initiative Assistance Agreement (263-0297). This amendment is to include a new activity “A Fish Farm” using the brine water produced from the desalination plant at Al Roda village, Beer El Abd District in North Sinai Governorate. This would encourage off-season micro-enterprises engaged in fish farming among the fishing community along the coast of North Sinai. This in turn would add a source of income for the community at these villages.

A feasibility study was prepared for USAID in consideration of the proposed aquaculture (“fish farm”) activity at the Al Roda village desalination plant. The potential environmental impacts of the fish farm will be assessed in accordance with 22 CFR 216.6 and the local Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) regulations. The Mission will procure a Scoping Statement to better ascertain the potential impacts and mitigation measures. If determined necessary according to the Scoping Statement, an environmental assessment will be undertaken.

The Climate Risk Assessment, in accordance with ADS201mal, related to this activity will be incorporated in the Scoping Statement.

2.0 OVERVIEW OF WORK TO DATE

In partnership with the Government of Egypt’s Holding Company for Water and Wastewater, USAID increases access to potable water and improves sanitation for residents in North Sinai, where access to clean water and sanitation services is severely limited. USAID activities improve water access and infrastructure through the drilling of deep wells; construction of desalination plants, water reservoirs, and potable water transmission and distribution lines; and procurement of water distribution trucks.

The main activities implemented and results achieved, to date, under the North Sinai Initiative are summarized below:

Main Activities

- Construct five groundwater desalination plants, one seawater desalination plant, and 14 deep wells.
- Refurbish two desalination plants for increased capacity, including drilling deep wells.
- Construct four water reservoirs for increased storage capacity.
- Procure 50 water distribution trucks and 20 wastewater vacuum trucks for increased water access.
- Expand potable water transmission pipelines for 126,000 people in Al Arish for increased water distribution.

Results To Date

- Completed construction of four reservoirs and drilling of 14 deep wells.
- Completed construction of five groundwater desalination plants, and rehabilitation of two.
- Procured and delivered 40 potable water distribution trucks, ten potable water distribution trailer trucks, and 20 wastewater vacuum trucks..
- Total number of beneficiaries to date is more than 200,000 people

3.0 CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE

- All other aspects of the project design/activities and geographic scope remain unchanged from previous environmental analyses.
- The Assistance Agreement and its Amendments Have been verified to undertake only those activities originally proposed, and all reporting requirements have been adhered to and remain unchanged. This project is in compliance.

4.0 REVISIONS

Per 22 CFR 216.3(a)(9), when ongoing programs are revised to incorporate a change in scope or nature, a determination will be made as to whether such change may have an environmental impact not previously assessed. If so, this environmental analysis will be amended to cover the changes. Per ADS 204, it is the responsibility of the USAID A/COR to keep the MEO/REA and BEO informed of any new information or changes in the activity that might require revision of this amendment and environmental determination.

USAID APPROVAL OF RCE/IEE AMENDMENT

PROJECT/ACTIVITY NAME: North Sinai Initiative Assistance Agreement (263-0297).

Bureau Tracking ID: ME 20-61

Approval:	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <p>William Young</p> <p>Digitally signed by William Young Date: 2020.07.29 10:56:51 +02'00'</p> </div> <div> <p>_____</p> <p>David Young, Acting Deputy Mission Director</p> </div> <div> <p>_____</p> <p>Date</p> </div> </div>
Clearance:	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <p>Michael Trueblood</p> <p>Digitally signed by Michael Trueblood Date: 2020.07.26 09:05:39 +02'00'</p> </div> <div> <p>_____</p> <p>Michael Trueblood, Office of Economic Growth Acting Director</p> </div> <div> <p>_____</p> <p>Date</p> </div> </div>
Clearance:	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <p>Stuart Banashek</p> <p>Digitally signed by Stuart Banashek Date: 2020.07.22 12:04:31 +02'00'</p> </div> <div> <p>_____</p> <p>Stuart Banashek, Mission Environmental Officer</p> </div> <div> <p>_____</p> <p>Date</p> </div> </div>
Clearance:	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <p><u>CLEARED VIA EMAIL</u></p> <p>Christopher Frey, Regional Environmental Advisor</p> </div> <div> <p>_____</p> </div> <div> <p><u>JUNE 29, 2020</u></p> <p>Date</p> </div> </div>
Concurrence:	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <p></p> <p>John Wilson, Bureau Environmental Officer [required]</p> </div> <div> <p>_____</p> </div> <div> <p><u>8/10/2020</u></p> <p>Date</p> </div> </div>

DISTRIBUTION:

- Award File
- Environmental Compliance Database